

MARVEL

VENOM

WE'RE
BACK!

#6
COSTA
SANDOVAL
ALMARA

YEARS AGO, PETER PARKER (A.K.A. THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN) ACCIDENTALLY BONDED WITH AN ALIEN BEING CALLED A SYMBIOTE. WHEN PETER REALIZED THE COSTUME WAS ACTUALLY AN AGGRESSIVE LIVING ORGANISM, HE REJECTED IT. BUT DURING THEIR TIME TOGETHER, THE SYMBIOTE HAD ACCESS TO SPIDER-MAN'S GENETIC CODE, AND NOW GRANTS WHOMEVER IT BONDS WITH SKILLS SIMILAR TO HIS: WALL-CRAWLING, THE POWER TO GENERATE BIOORGANIC WEBBING, AND UNIQUE ABILITIES TO SHAPE-SHIFT AND BECOME INVISIBLE, TURNING THEM INTO...

VENOM



WHEN THE VENOM SYMBIOTE RETURNED TO EARTH IT WAS SEPARATED FROM ITS HOST, FLASH THOMPSON. IN ITS FRIGHTENED AND WEAKENED STATE, THE CREATURE FOUND A NEW HOST -- A FORMER ARMY RANGER NAMED LEE PRICE.

THANKS TO HIS RANGER TRAINING, LEE HAS BEEN ABLE TO DOMINATE AND CONTROL THE SYMBIOTE, AND HAS USED IT TO COURT THE FAVOR OF BLACK CAT, NEW YORK'S LATEST KINGPIN OF CRIME.

FOR A TIME, HE WAS ABLE TO KEEP THE SYMBIOTE A SECRET, BUT WHEN ONE OF BLACK CAT'S STRONGMEN, MAC GARGAN AKA SCORPION, DOUBLE-CROSSED HIM ON A ROUTINE JOB, THE TRUTH CAME OUT. LEE HAS BEEN ON THE RUN FROM CAT AND HER CREW EVER SINCE.

TO MAKE MATTERS WORSE, LEE CROSSED PATHS WITH NONE OTHER THAN *THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN* AND THE TWO FOUND THEMSELVES EMBROILED IN A FIGHT ACROSS MANHATTAN. NOW, LEE IS TRYING TO MAKE A BREAK FOR IT, WITH SPIDER-MAN AND THE FBI ON HIS TAIL, INCLUDING THE LEADER OF THE BUREAU'S ANTI-SYMBOTIC TASK FORCE, EDDIE BROCK.

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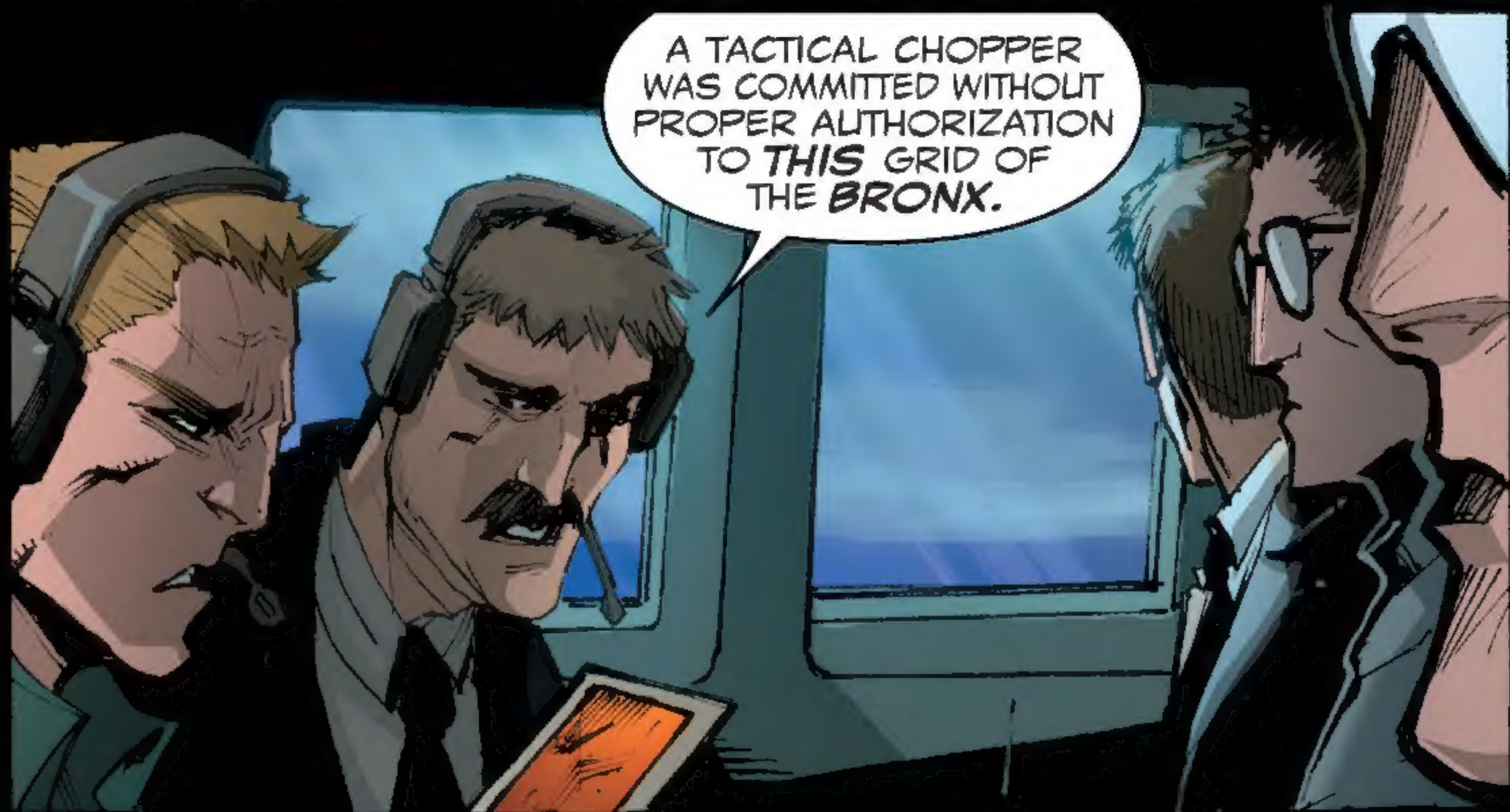
ALAN FINE
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ALL RIGHT, **BROCK**. HERE'S THE SITUATION.

LESS THAN **TEN MINUTES AGO**, AN INCIDENT OCCURRED INVOLVING ONE OF MY AGENTS AND A SYMBIOTE-ENHANCED SUBJECT DURING A ROUTINE MEETING WITH AN INFORMANT.



A TACTICAL CHOPPER WAS COMMITTED WITHOUT PROPER AUTHORIZATION TO **THIS** GRID OF THE **BRONX**.



THIS IS THE LAST FOOTAGE WE WERE ABLE TO CAPTURE FROM THE ONBOARD CAMERAS BEFORE THEY WENT DARK, AND YOU'RE THE ONLY AGENT AT THE BUREAU WITH ANY KNOWLEDGE ABOUT HOW TO STOP THESE DAMN THINGS.



WHAT'S THE STATUS ON THE HELICOPTER?



WE DON'T KNOW. WE LOST OUR EYES ON ITS SYSTEMS THE SAME TIME WE LOST THE CAMERA FEED. WE'VE GOT GROUND UNITS ON-SITE HELPING CLEAR OUT CIVILIANS AND TRYING TO GET A SITREP. A SYMBIOTE CONTAINMENT UNIT IS INBOUND AS WELL.

BUT IF THAT THING IS STILL IN CONTROL OF OUR CHOPPER...





"...THERE'S NO TELLING
THE DAMAGE IT COULD DO."

NEVER
THOUGHT I'D
BE FLYING ONE
OF *THESE*
AGAIN.



YOU FLY
HELICOPTERS,
LEE?

IN THE
RANGERS. AND
NOT WELL.



BUT IT'S
THE FASTEST WAY
TO GET **OUT** OF
HERE.

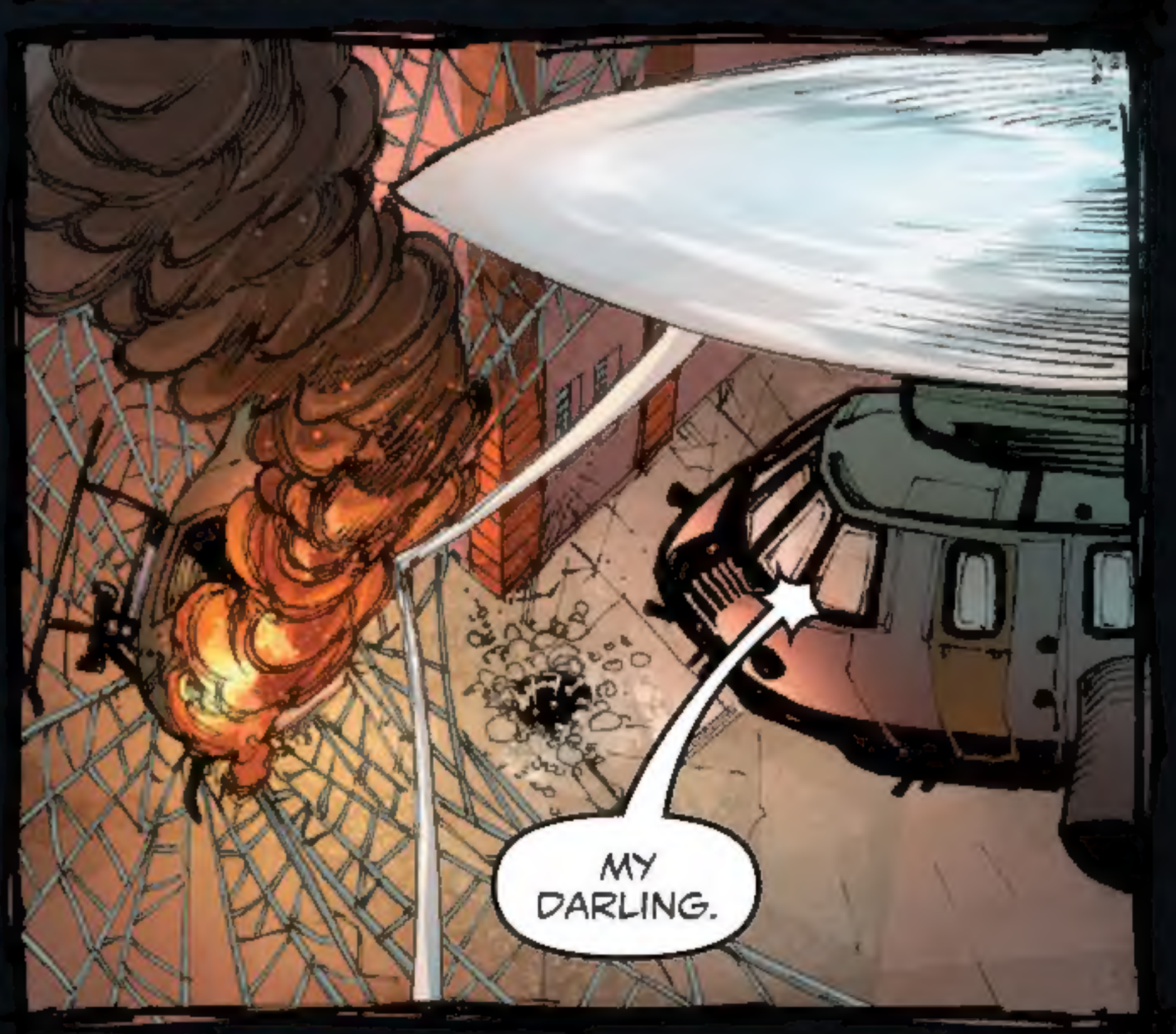
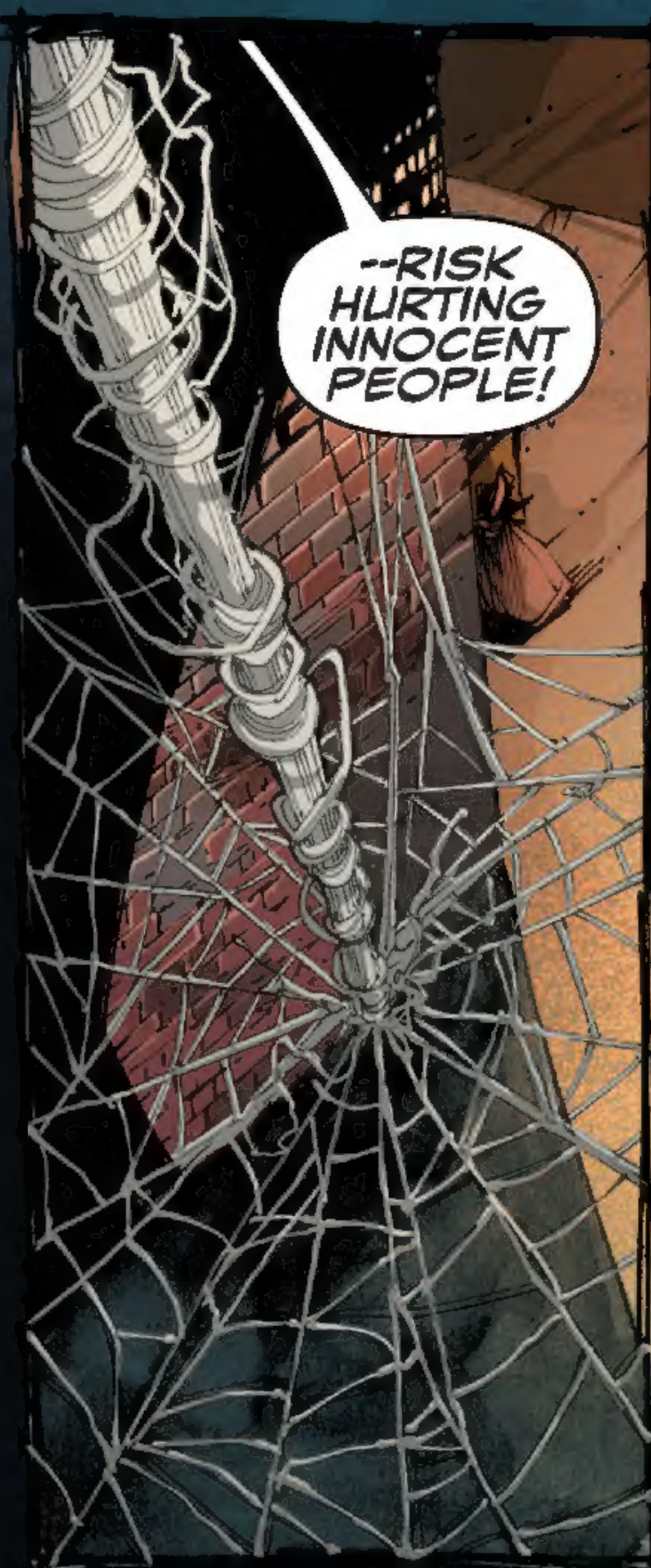
WE'LL HEAD
UP THE HUDSON
AND DITCH IN THE
WATER BY--



FLASH?
ISSAT YOU IN
THERE?

ANY CHANCE
I COULD HITCH
A RIDE?

NEW
PLAN.





LEE,
DON'T!

SHUT UP!

HSSSS!

WHERE'D
HE--

HEH.
SCORE ONE FOR
THE GOOD GUYS,
AMIRITE?

AW,
MAN. I'M
NEVER
RIGHT.

GUH!



SIR!
SPIDER-MAN HAS
ENGAGED THE TARGET!
SHOULD WE PROVIDE
SUPPORT?

YOU GOT
SONICS ON
THIS BIRD?

NEGATIVE,
AGENT BROCK. BUT
BOOTS ON THE
GROUND DO.

THE GUNS
WILL HAVE TO DO,
THEN. WHAT'S THE SITREP
ON CONTAINMENT AND
CIVILIANS?

"CONTAINMENT
UNIT IS SIXTY
SECONDS OUT.

"CIVILIANS ARE
CONFIRMED
CLEAR."

GET
ME DOWN
THERE...

...AND
OPEN
FIRE!

NYARGH!



NEED TO GET AWAY, LEE!

DON'T LIKE THIS! TOO MANY PEOPLE! TRYING TO KILL US!



EDDIE BROCK.

SHOULDA KNOWN.

BACK OFF, SPIDER-MAN. I'M WITH THE BUREAU. HAVE BEEN FOR A FEW MONTHS NOW.



WE HAVE EQUIPMENT INBOUND, BUT HE'S NOT MAKING IT EASY. WHOEVER'S IN THAT SUIT IS A PSYCHOPATH.

AND IT'S NOT FLASH THOMPSON.

WE HAVE TO CONTAIN THIS FAST. THAT THING IS DANGEROUS.

HE'S NOT GOING TO STOP. AND NEITHER WILL THE BUREAU.

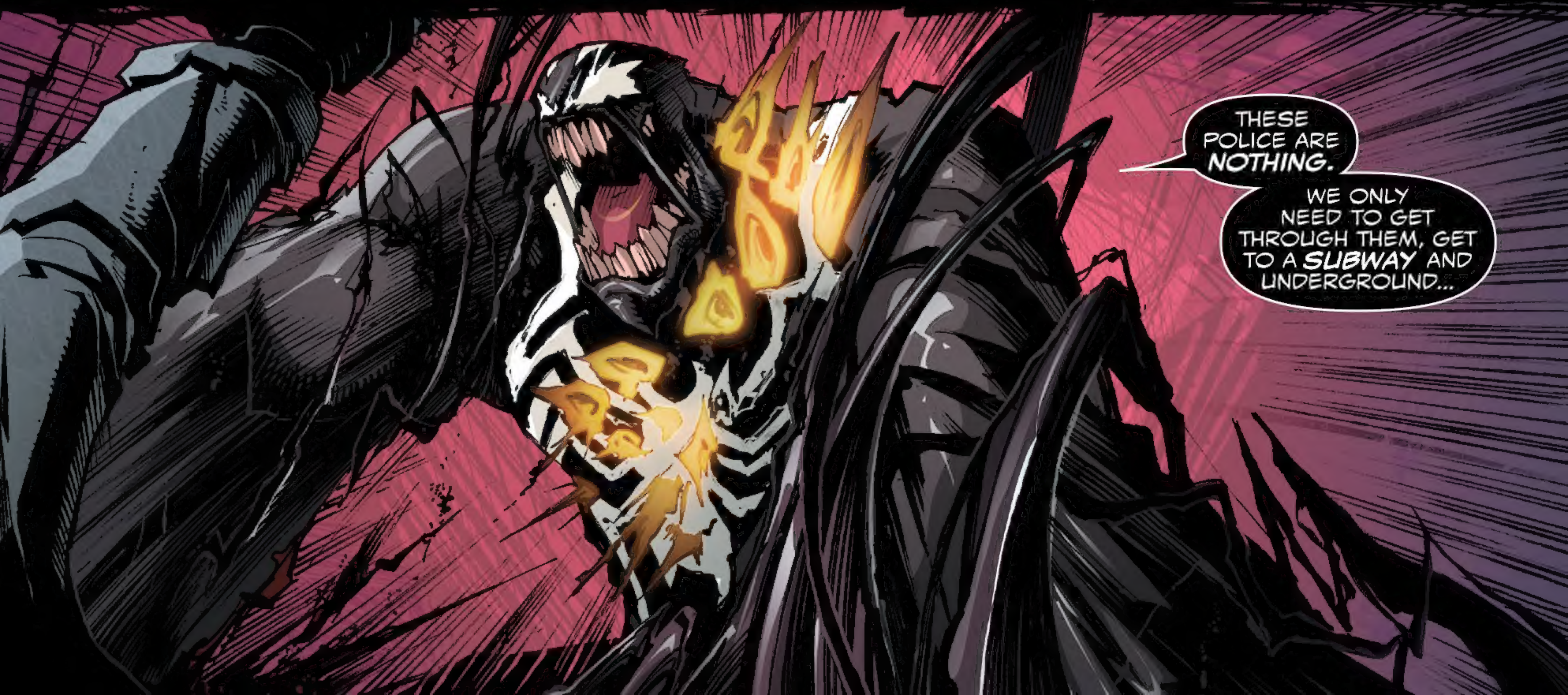
THEY'LL HUNT IT ACROSS THE WHOLE CITY.



YOU HAVE A PLAN?

I DO.

YOU WON'T LIKE IT.



THESE POLICE ARE NOTHING.

WE ONLY NEED TO GET THROUGH THEM, GET TO A SUBWAY AND UNDERGROUND...



I'M NOT
RUNNING FROM
YOU THIS TIME,
WEB-SLINGER!

I'LL KILL
YOU BEFORE I LET
YOU CHASE ME FOR
THE REST OF MY
LIFE.


HEY,
CHUCKLES!

WOULD YOU
LISTEN FOR ONE SECOND
BEFORE YOU GET TO THE
BRAINS-EATING?

I DIDN'T
ACTUALLY COME HERE
TO FIGHT.

I CAME
FOR THE
SLIT.

I WANT
IT BACK. SO
THINGS CAN BE THE
WAY THEY USED
TO BE.



THEN
COME AND
GET--

WHA--?

GLK!

WHAT DO YOU
THINK YOU'RE
DOING?

SPIDER-MAN IS
A HERO! A
HERO, LEE!

CAN'T STAY WITH
YOU. TOO MUCH
NEEDLESS DEATH!

YOU'RE
NOT GOING
ANYWHERE.

I'M
STRONGER
THAN YOU.



NO!

YOU'VE KEPT
ME DOWN IN THE
DARK, LEE... BUT THERE
ARE OTHER THINGS
DOWN HERE.

ON THE
OUTSIDE IT'S
ALL COLD AND
ANGER.

DOWN HERE
IS WARM. WITH
FIRE.

WITH
FEAR.

YOU TELL
YOURSELF IT'S
BECAUSE THEY HURT
YOU, BUT I KNOW THE
TRUTH ABOUT YOU.
ABOUT WHY YOU
KILLED YOUR
PARENTS.

YOU ARE
BROKEN, LEE.
BROKEN, WEAK,
AND HATEFUL.

DON'T
MAKE ME BREAK
YOU MORE.

NYYYARGH!

PUT YOUR
GUNS DOWN AND
KEEP BACK! DON'T
GET CLOSE
TO IT!

HOPEFULLY
SOMETHING GOOD
IS ABOUT TO
HAPPEN.

SPIDER-MAN'S
GIVING US OUR
WINDOW, FOLKS. LET'S
BE SURE NOT TO
MISS IT.



PLEASE...

I JUST
DIDN'T WANT THEM
TO HURT ME ANYMORE.
I DON'T WANT TO BE
ALONE. PLEASE.

I...

IF YOU
LEAVE...

...I'LL
KILL YOU!

NO,
LEE.
YOU'LL NEVER
KILL ANYONE
AGAIN.

AAAAARRRRGGH!!

FREE!

THAT'S
RIGHT. COME
ON!

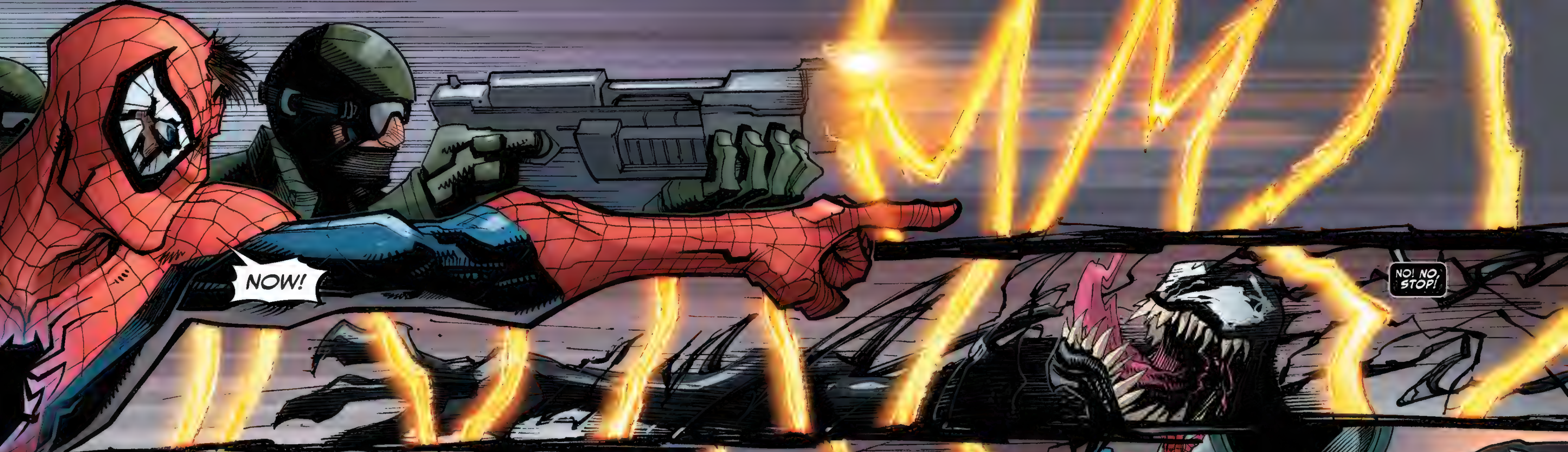
IT'LL BE
JUST LIKE OLD
TIMES!

SPIDER-MAN!
CAN BE A
HERO AGAIN!

NO MORE PRISONER!
NO MORE DEATH!

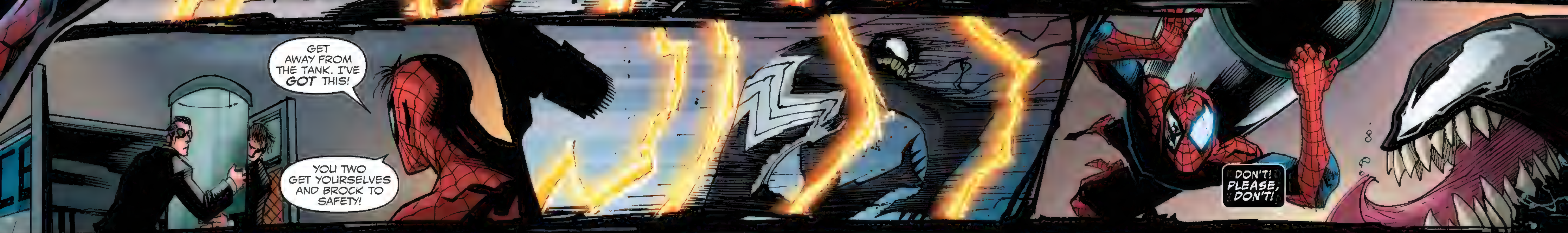
ALMOST
THERE, BUDDY!
JUST A LIIIIITTLE CLOSER.
AWAY FROM THE GAS
TANKS OF THE
CARS...

I'M
DEFINITELY
GOING TO
HELL FOR
THIS.



NOW!

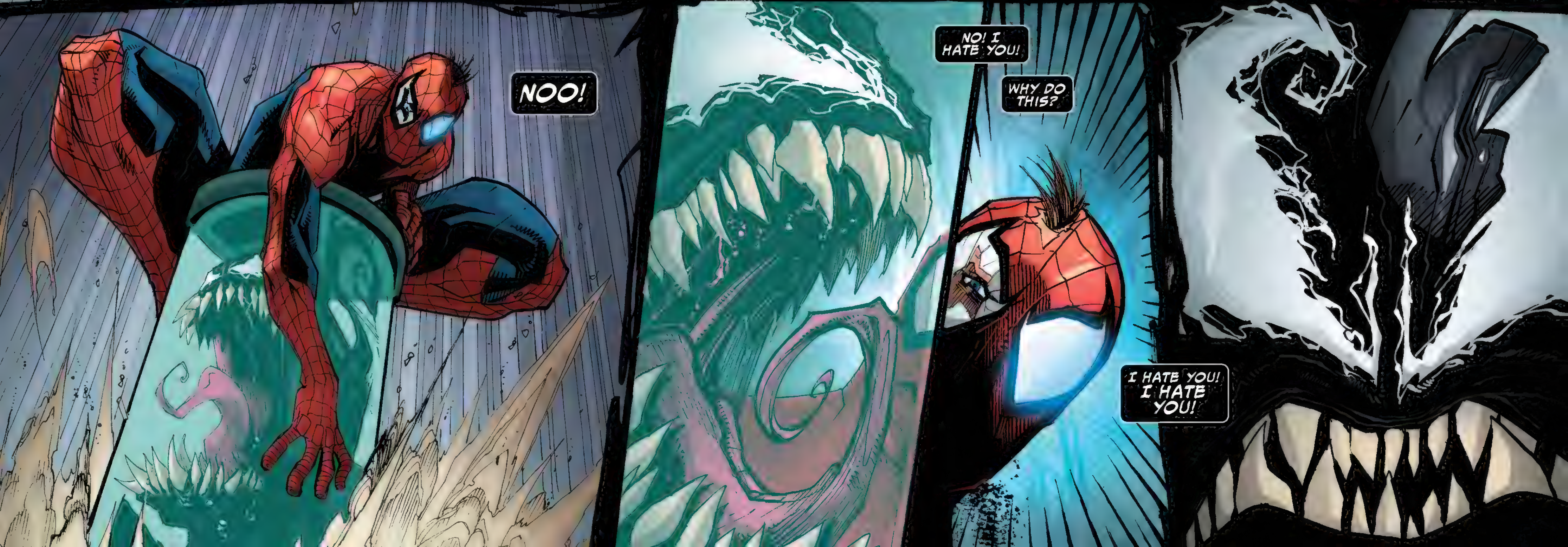
NO! NO STOP!



GET AWAY FROM THE TANK. I'VE GOT THIS!

YOU TWO GET YOURSELVES AND BROCK TO SAFETY!

DON'T! PLEASE, DON'T!



NOO!

NO! I HATE YOU!

WHY DO THIS?

I HATE YOU!
I HATE YOU!



BEST PART
OF BEIN' NYPD--
ARRESTING **BIG**,
SCARY SUPER
VILLAINS.



THOUGHT
YOU WERE PRETTY
SMART, BUT IT ALL
ENDS THE SAME,
DOESN'T IT?



NOT SO
TOUGH WITHOUT
YOUR SUIT,
HUH?



NOT SO
TOUGH.



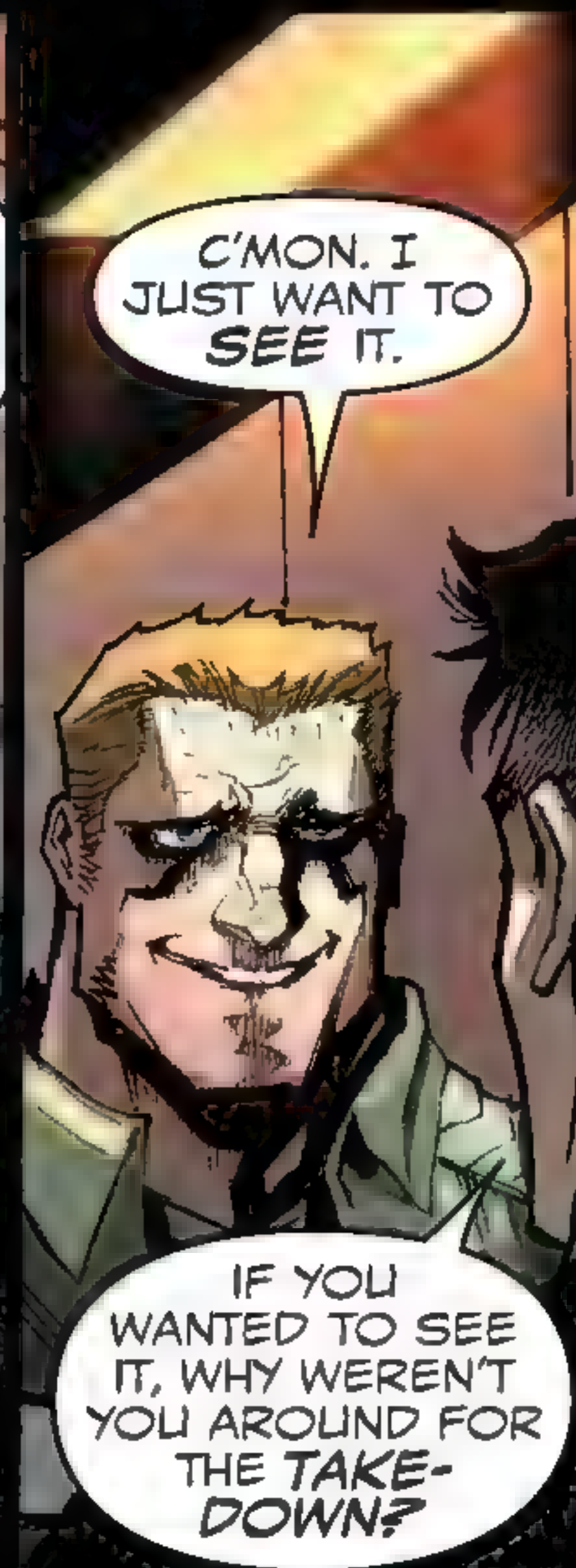
CAN'T LET YOU IN, BROCK. THEY'RE PREPPING IT FOR **TRANSPORT**.



TRANSPORT?

YEAH, THEY'RE TAKING IT **OFF-WORLD** TO SOME SATELLITE BASE. PROBABLY GOING TO ALPHA FLIGHT OR SOMETHING.

DAMN THING IS MORE TROUBLE THAN IT'S **WORTH** IF YOU ASK ME.



C'MON. I JUST WANT TO **SEE** IT.

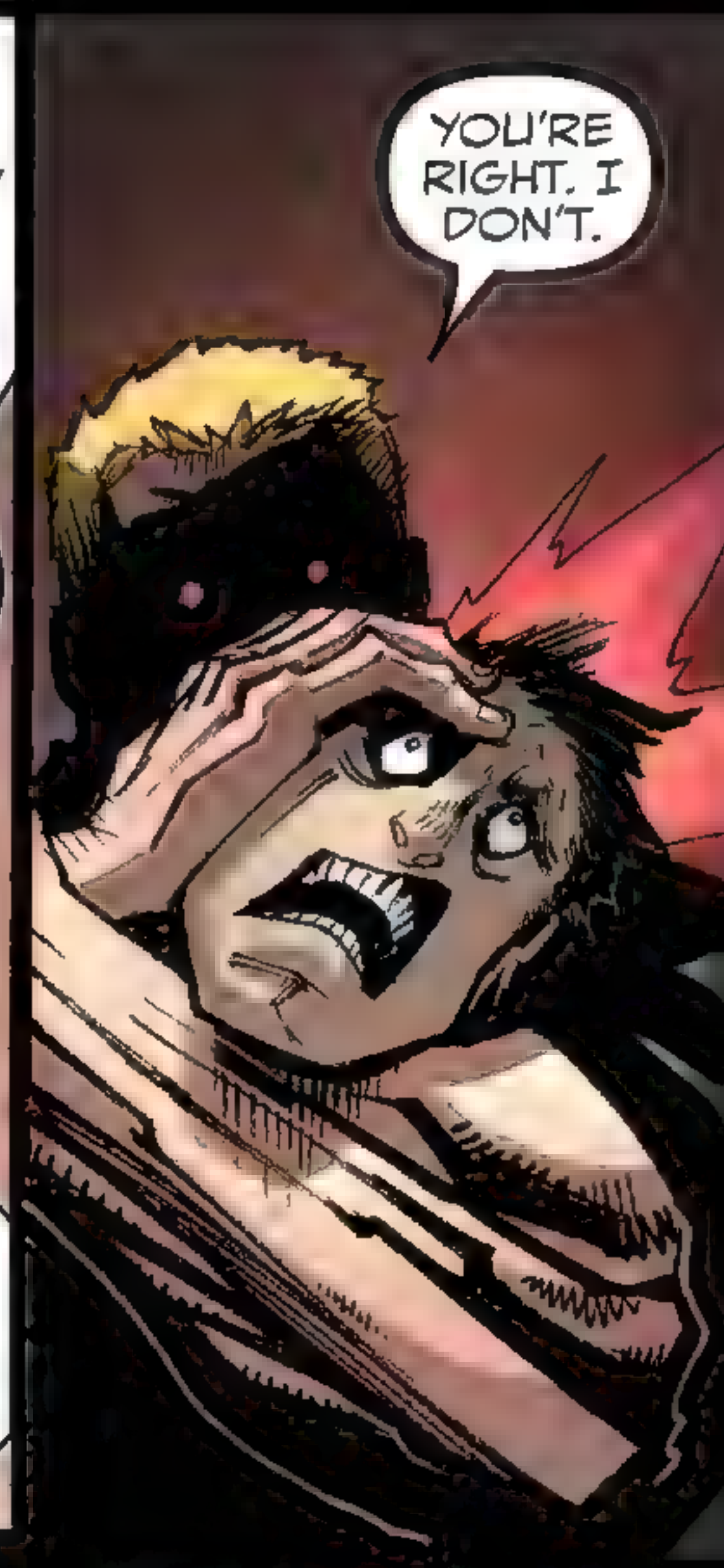
IF YOU WANTED TO SEE IT, WHY WEREN'T YOU AROUND FOR THE **TAKE-DOWN?**



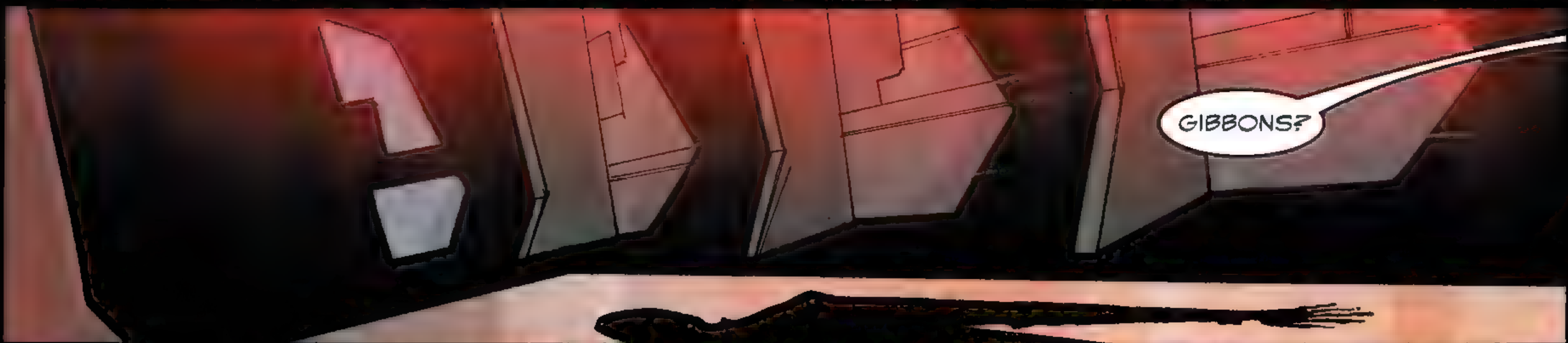
SPIDER-MAN **MADE** ME FIND COVER. BESIDES, I COULDN'T BE THERE WHEN IT GOT BETRAYED OR IT MIGHT NOT **TRUST** ME.

TRUST YOU? HILARIOUS.

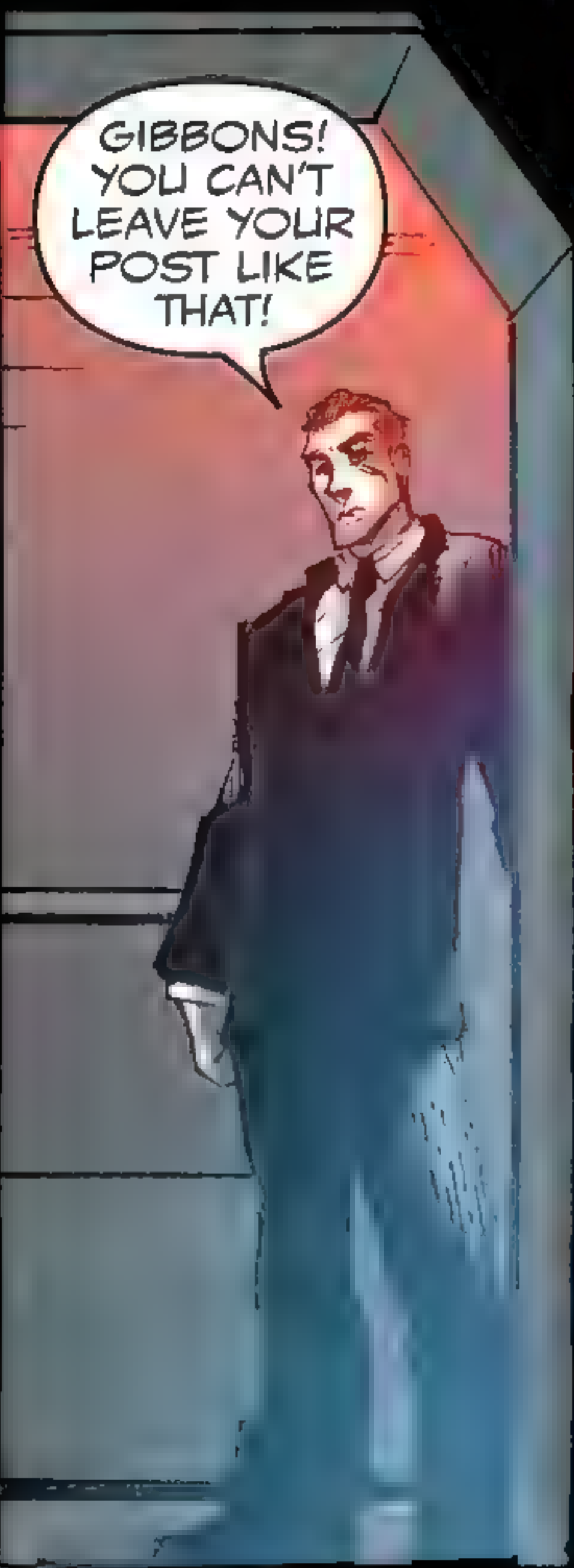
NOBODY AROUND HERE TRUSTS YOU. I DIDN'T THINK YOU **CARED** ABOUT THAT.



YOU'RE RIGHT. I DON'T.



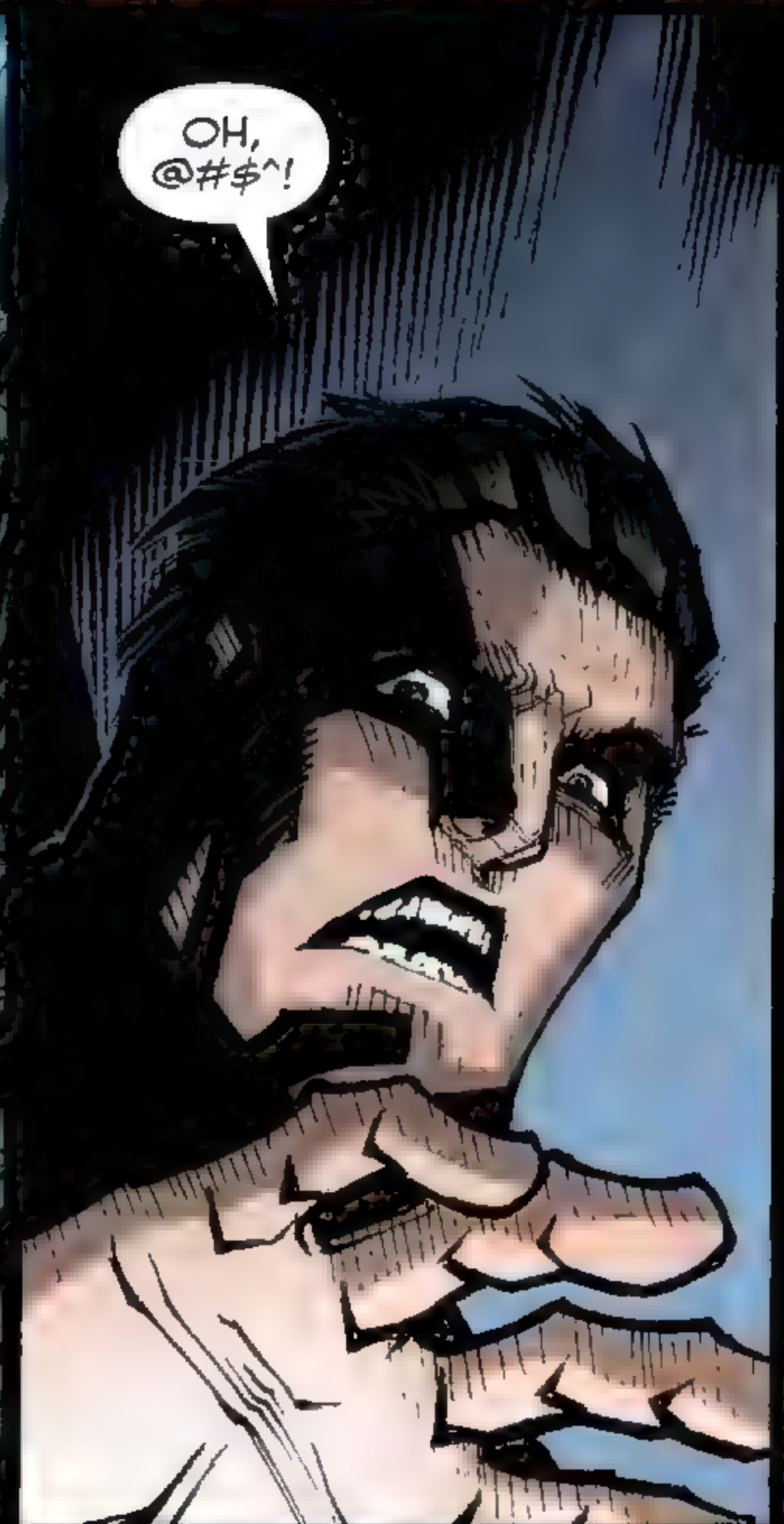
GIBBONS?



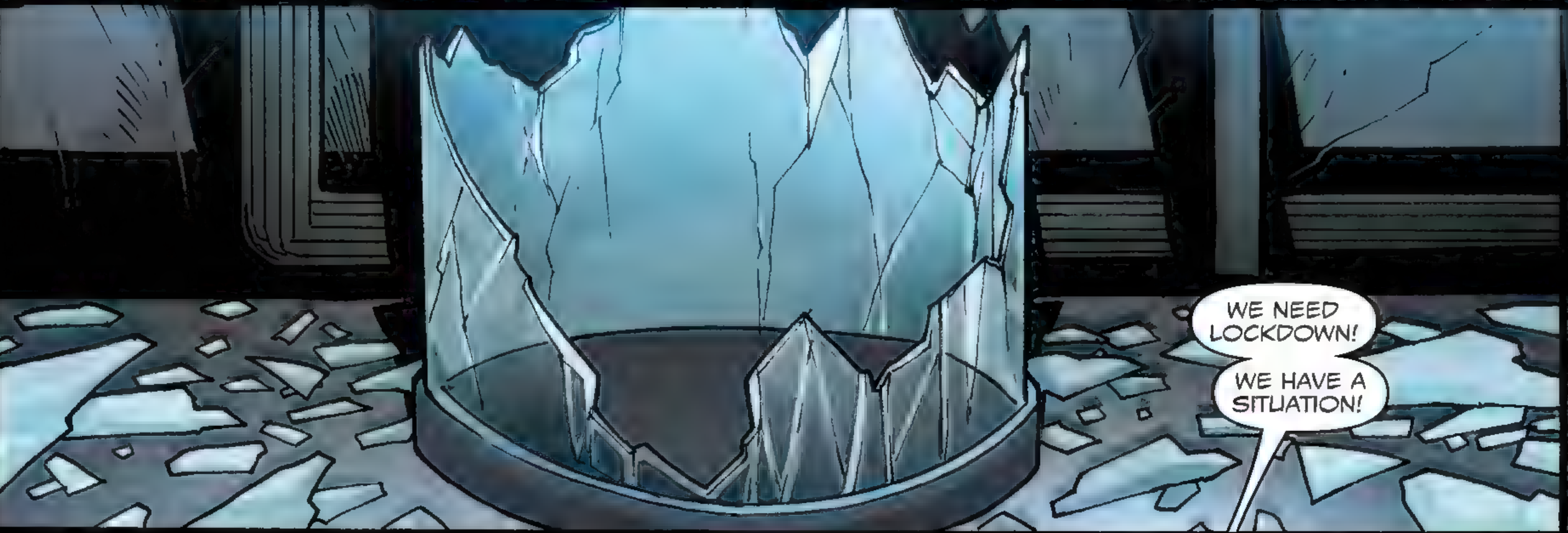
GIBBONS! YOU CAN'T LEAVE YOUR POST LIKE THAT!



MRRMF.



OH, @#\$^!



WE NEED LOCKDOWN!

WE HAVE A SITUATION!



WE'RE
BACK!

VENOM
IS LOOSE!

TO BE CONTINUED...

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SO LONG, LEE PRICE. HELLO, EDDIE BROCK!

Hello in here, out there, around the world and aboard all the ships at sea! VENOM Editor Devin Lewis reporting to you live and in-print here at Marvel HQ in the heart of New York.

I couldn't be more excited about the book you hold in your hands right now. Eddie Brock's return to the pages of VENOM has been a long time coming. I'm not speaking metaphorically or exaggerating--your pals in the Spidey-Office have been planning this for over a year, working behind the scenes to make sure all the pieces were on the board and lined up to make the reunion you hold in your hands possible.

As we knew that VENOM: SPACE KNIGHT was going to come to a close, we wanted to bring Venom back home to Earth, and, to me, one of the most interesting things about Venom is the symbiote's relationship with Spider-Man. What's even crazier is that Venom's hosts have all had relationships with the Webbed Wonder, too, and the dynamic between the symbiote and its hosts affect Venom's attitude towards Spider-Man. That's a crazy dynamic, and, as Spidey'll discover in the coming months, it might spell trouble...

And, YES! Before you even ask, we've got big plans for Flash Thompson, Anti-Venom, Carnage, the whole gang! So, keep reading, True Believers! Go to your comic shops and tell 'em you want the best, and that the best is VENOM!

All right, enough chatter. The mailbag's bursting, so let's get to your letters!

Dear SymbiWrote,

I just finished reading the fourth issue of VENOM and it was without a doubt the best one yet. Up until this point Lee has intrigued me as a character, but in this issue my investment in him really started to pay off. I am connecting with his strife in a way I wasn't prior to this installment and finally rooting for him to succeed. The writer and artist have done a fabulous job, every panel is gripping and beautiful. Thanks to everyone involved for a fantastic series and you all deserve a lot of praise! I can't wait for the next issue!

Tyler B.
Prescott, AZ

Dear Team Venom,

I've been a Venomaniac (a symbiote/Venom fan) for nearly two decades. I was first exposed to Venom and the symbiotes, like many from my generation, through SPIDER-MAN: THE ANIMATED SERIES. Though I missed out on regularly collecting any Eddie Brock/Venom series as they were published, I became a regular Venom subscriber at the

very start of Flash Thompson's run as Agent Venom.

I've liked every Venom host, from the original, Eddie, to poor Angelo Fortunato and Flash--I even like Mac Gargan! If anyone is familiar with The Venom Site's podcast, *We Are Venomaniacs!*, of which I am a host, they know I and my co-hosts have had little love for Venom's most recent host, Lee Price. So when Marvel announced that Eddie would be returning as the host of Venom, I was immensely relieved and only slightly melancholic.

Eddie is my favorite fictional character of all time. That's no secret--I wear it as a badge of geek honor. I've loved his oft-misunderstood character progression from the host of Venom to cancer patient, and to becoming and losing Anti-Venom. He's had some great character growth that most people miss when they look at him. When he became the new Toxin host, I was a little disheartened by the regression in that progress; he was devolving back to his Lethal Protector ways. I loved his Lethal Protector days and firmly believe they were some of his best as Venom, but the way he acted as Toxin felt like backpedaling in characterization.

I also believe that Eddie was at his prime in characterization as Anti-Venom. He was finally working toward a better future for himself. He was slowly becoming the hero he always imagined himself to be as Venom. While he regressed a bit on that forward progression as Toxin, he had a breakthrough recently under Gerry Conway's hand in CARNAGE #15 that gave me a glimmer of hope (props to Conway and co. for a great run on CARNAGE!). While I still lament that Eddie isn't going to be Anti-Venom again, I hope that as Venom once more, we'll see him in a better state than he was when he was Venom 13 years ago and during his Lethal Protector days. I hope Mike Costa and co. bring Eddie-Venom back as a "Lethal Protector PLUS." (Wherever Costa and co. go with him, I'll just be glad we no longer have Lee in control of the symbiote!)

Sincerely,
Orion "OrionSTARBOY" Petittclerc,
A Lifelong Venomaniac

Hi, Spidey Office,

I hope this letter appears in Eddie's Clubhouse! Are we doing Eddie's Clubhouse again? Well, either way, I hope this reaches the dudes making the Venom series. It kicks butt. That poor symbiote can't catch a break, the second it's all heroic, some sociopath comes along and makes it do bad stuff. When it was announced online that Eddie Brock was returning to his position as the host of Venom, I symbiote screeched. Well, I screamed like a little girl actually, but...point is, I am excited. Cheers on the big #150, can't wait to read it!

- A symbiote fan named Jesse

Dear SymbiWrote,

Costa & Sandoval are killing the new VENOM series.

I've been a comic reader/fan since I was a kid (10 years old) and have never written in before, but after those first two issues I gotta say, "give me more." The first issue blew me away with moments that felt like a straight throwback to the original battle of wills between Peter and the symbiote. You had me hooked there and now with issue two ending with a standoff, I can't wait to see where this series goes. Two quick questions before I go.

1. Any chance Mac is actually able to keep things under wraps? I would love to see the slow build to an empire, as eluded to in issue two.

2. Since this Venom seems like he's staying on Earth, how long till a run-in with the likes of, say, Kingpin, Punisher or Daredevil?

Y'all are killing it!!!

Steve D.
Winnipeg, Manitoba

All right, Web-Heads! That's all the space we've got this month, but be back in 30 when we celebrate a most momentous, monstrous, and monumental milestone--

VENOM #150!

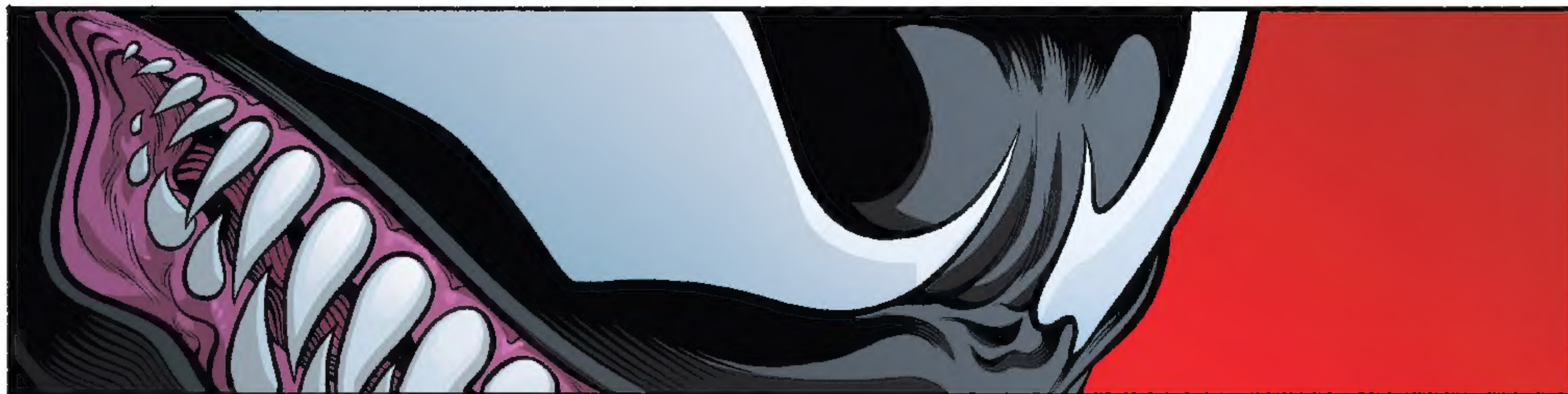


E PLURIBUS VENOM!
Devin
@edevinlewis

DON'T MISS NEXT MONTH'S

VENOM

#150!



ON SALE MAY 2017!

